International Women’s Day 2015

What’s on in Newcastle

Women all over the world celebrate the International Women’s Day to mark various achievements of women, but also to draw attention to the plight of many women all over the world and to challenge the status quo. The theme set for this year by the UN is “Make it Happen” #MakeItHappen. Many voluntary and community groups hold events and activities to celebrate International Women’s Day. These groups arrange events and activities all year round. Check out their website or phone them for details of their work. Newcastle CVS thought it would be helpful to pull together the activities we know about, but there will also be other activities happening which aren’t listed here, and around the region. A number of events are taking place over the next month. Please engage, enjoy and Make It Happen

NOT ON THE QT: Women and Politics

Friday 6 March, 6:30-7:30pm, Lecture Theatre 002, Business and Law Building, City Campus East, Northumbria University
Free public event. Refreshments will be available from 5:45pm

On 30th March 2015, the British Parliament will be dissolved and campaigning will start for Election 2015 (7th May). This is the longest period of election purdah for many years, giving all parties ample time to persuade us that they should be the next party of Government. But the trends in voter turnout suggest that the public seem increasingly disinterested in politics, perhaps because we only see politicians on TV and not out and about on the doorstep, holding public meetings or surgeries?

As we celebrate the strength of women on International Women’s Day (8th March), Northumbria University’s Gender and Society Research Hub is pleased to host a Q and A event with some of the region’s women politicians, both elected members and prospective parliamentary candidates (PPCs). We are also pleased to welcome Judith Holder (Grumpy Old Women) as a contributor to this panel.

Chair Tessa Green, Speakers: Charlotte Haitham-Taylor - PPC North West Durham Conservative; Judith Holder - Journalist and Writer; Jacqui Lovell - PPC Stockton South: Green Party; Chi Onwurah MP - Newcastle Central: Labour; Julie Porksen - PPC Berwick-Upon-Tweed: Liberal Democrat

For further information, please contact Hazel Impey hazel.impey@northumbria.ac.uk
To register for this event, please visit http://www.northumbria.ac.uk/gsrh-qt
To submit a question please email Karen Ross: karen.ross@northumbria.ac.uk and remember to include your name and keep a note of the question!
Festival of Feminist Ideas and Actions

To celebrate International Women’s Day 2015, Northumbria University’s Gender & Society Research Hub (GSRH) is hosting a series of feminist conversations. These conversations focus on women’s experiences and lives including their roles as politicians, activists, community workers, writers, directors, actors and academics. Each conversation looks at a particular theme and draws in women working in a variety of professional areas and contexts. The themes include women’s safety and how local organisations support women, the history of women’s activist contributions and the contemporary campaigns in which women are currently engaged, and how feminist politics are translated into creative acts of theatre and performance. The final event discusses research carried out with women politicians in a variety of national contexts.

**Venue:** City Library (Bewick Hall)
**Time:** All these events take place 6:30-7:30pm, refreshments available from 6:00pm

**Programme**

**Tuesday 3 March : Creative Feminist Action**
Speakers: Charlie Hardwick (actor, The Awkward Squad, Emmerdale), Kay Hepplewhite (lecturer, researcher, theatre practitioner), Fiona MacPherson (producer/director, the Guild of Lillians), Karin Young (writer, The Awkward Squad, Emmerdale)

**Thursday 12 March : Women, History and Social Change**
Speakers: Professor Joan Anim-Addo (Centre for Caribbean Studies, Goldsmith’s, University of London), Chris Drake (Greenham), Barbara Jackson (Women Against Pit Closures, Orgreave Truth & Justice Campaign), Rosie Lewis (BAM Sistahood Heritage Co-ordinator)

**Monday 16 March : Women’s Activism Today**
Speakers: Pat Fisher BEM; Lizi Gray (Slutwalk; Northumbria University Feminist Society; NE Feminist Gathering); Sue Robson (NEWomen’s Network Co-ordinator)

**Monday 23 March : Women’s Safety and Freedom**
Speakers: Cris McCurley, Women’s and Human Rights lawyer, Ben Hoare and Bell Solicitors; representatives from Rape Crisis Tyneside and Northumberland

**Wednesday 1 April : Women, Politics, Power**
Speakers: Louise Carol Donkor (University of Liverpool), Dr Justine Natale (University of Newcastle), Sue Regan (Northumbria University)

To register for any of these events, please go to: www.newcastle.gov.uk/libraryevents

In addition to this Newcastle City Libraries will have a book display and reading list available for customers throughout March.
International Women’s Day Networking Lunch hosted by the Women’s Fund at the Community Foundation
Friday 6 March 11:45 - 2:30 at the Hilton Hotel, Gateshead
The lunch is a networking and fundraising event on behalf of the Women’s Fund at the Community Foundation which aims to ensure that all women in Tyne & Wear and Northumberland have the opportunity to learn, grow and achieve. This year the keynote speaker is Baroness Maddock, and the chair is Fiona Cruikshank. The lunch is an opportunity for women to pool their giving in support of the Women’s Fund at the Community Foundation, and raises a substantial amount year on year. The Women’s Fund was created by women, to inspire and support other local women in our community to make a change. By joining this event, you will be able to help us support more women’s causes, and make a difference to the lives of women in the North East.
If you would like to purchase tickets at £40 per ticket, please email rc@communityfoundation.org.uk or ring the Community Foundation at 0191 2220945.

Women of the North East! Get on board our coach to Million Women Rise
Saturday 7 March
Rape Crisis Tyneside and Northumberland are organising a return trip to march with Million Women Rise on Saturday 7 March. We will join the march to Trafalgar Square for the Women's Rally, calling for a woman's right to be free from violence and fear. The coach departure point is Bewick Street, opposite Newcastle Central Station, 5:30am. The return journey: pick up from near Embankment, Central London, 5pm. The coach is women-only. There is one wheelchair space on the coach, but can help transport mobility aids to London and back.
Tickets are on a sliding scale dependent on means, and available at https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/million-women-rise-newcastle-to-london-bus-tickets-15418889313

This Girl Can Newcastle
This year as part of Newcastle City Council’s celebration for International Women’s Day the Council is launching its campaign to empower women to participate in a wide range of activities. This Girl Can is a campaign which understands how it can often be hard for women and girls to take part in sport and exercise but celebrates that they are doing this despite the barriers. This is part of Sport England’s national campaign.

A launch event will be held at the Civic Centre on 8th March which will provide an opportunity to hear how women in Newcastle can get involved in the campaign and to celebrate the diversity of women and girls taking part in sport and physical activity across the city. As this event is invite only there is a This Girl Can page which will be updated on a regular basis showcasing opportunities for women and girls to get and stay active in their communities http://activenewcastle.co.uk/this-girl-can/

A number of satellite events are also taking place. The This Girl Can clubbercise is happening at the end of the month, all are welcome to come along and join in. The
Council is hoping to have a great event that will raise a lot of money for cancer research, you can find out more about this at http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/this-girl-can-clubbercise-tickets-15634037828

**Women in Business**  
**Friday 6 March 2015 9:30 - 13:45 (registration from 9:00) at Newcastle University Business School, 5 Barrack Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 4SE**  
Join Newcastle University Business School as it celebrates International Women’s Day 2015 with an event packed with inspirational women. This year, NUBS is inviting you to come along and celebrate the success of our region's business women. Over the morning you will hear incredible stories of the journeys our speakers have been on. The Chartered Management Institute (CMI) is also launching the regional Women in Management networking group as a part of their International Women's Day.  
Although this is a free event, you will need to register on http://forms.ncl.ac.uk/view.php?id=7652  
For more information about this event please contact Angela Craggs  
Angela.craggs@ncl.ac.uk 0191 208 1624

**Coffee morning hosted by North Eastern Association of the British Federation of Women Graduates**  
**Saturday 7 March 10:30-12:00noon, St Hilda's Church Hall, Thornleigh Road, Jesmond, Newcastle**  
This fund raising event is to mark IWD and to raise funds for a female post-graduate from Afghanistan studying in the UK. Information about the education of women and girls in Afghanistan will also be available.  
For further information please email northeastern@bfwg.org.uk

**Newcastle University FemSoc**  
**Sunday 8 March 10:00-16:00, Newcastle University Students Union**  
The detailed itinerary for the day will be published on the Newcastle University FemSoc International Women’s Day Celebration 2015 facebook page. There will be workshops, speakers, stalls, live music and more

**Jumping Puddles – a play by Open Clasp**  
**Friday 27 February at 6:00pm; this performance is at for young women aged 13-19 years and a workshop follows the performance West End Women and Girls Centre, Stephenson Building, 173 Elswick Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE4 6SQ**  
This performance is hosted by West End Women and Girls, please ring Huffty on 0191 2734942 to book  
**Friday 13 March at 6:30pm at the West End Women and Girls Centre** This performance is hosted by West End Women and Girls, please ring Huffty on 0191 2734942 to book  
**Saturday 14 March 6:30 doors open, 7:00 pm start West End Women and Girls Centre, Stephenson Building, 173 Elswick Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE4 6SQ** Ticket price General £7.50 / Concessionary £5.00 Rape Crisis Tyneside and Northumberland presents this woman only event. All monies raised go to Rape Crisis Tyneside and Northumberland. Audience members should be aged 13 or over. To
buy tickets go to http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/jumping-puddles-by-open-clasp-theatre-tickets-15725258672?aff+eac2 or contact enquiries@rctn.org.uk

Thursday 19 March 7:00pm Riverside Centre, Carnegie Building, Atkinson Road, Benwell, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE4 8XS This performance is hosted by the Riverside Community Health Project. Contact 0191 2260754 for details and tickets. Jumping Puddles is an Open Clasp Theatre Company production in collaboration with Frantic Assembly.

Tyneside Women’s Health
Tyneside Women’s Health will be holding a coffee morning for their service users and there will be other events. To find out what is happening please check out http://www.tynesidewomenshealth.org.uk/calendar-events/international-womens-day/

Riverside Community Health Project
Wednesday 11 March 11:00-2:00pm
Riverside Women’s Group is hosting an #MakeItHappen IWD event. Contact 0191 2260754 for details, as this is an invitation only event

YMCA Walker
Thursday 12 March, from 1:00-3:00pm at Monkchester Community Centre, Monkchester Road, Walker, Newcastle upon Tyne NE6 2LJ
This is a free event where women can receive a small pamper treatment, have a go at arts and crafts activities and relax with a cup of tea and a cake.
For further information contact the YMCA on 0191 2624945

West End Women and Girls is also working in partnership with Northumbria Police to advertise their current recruitment campaign. It will be hosting two open days targeted at women and BME communities. The women’s event is on Saturday 21 March 12noon - 3:00pm, with the BME event on Sunday 22 March 12noon – 3:00pm. Please ring 0191 2734942 for more details
Both events will be at the West End Women and Girls Centre, Stephenson Building, 173 Elswick Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE4 6SQ

Nothing to do with IWD, but not to be missed!
30 April Everyday Sexism Public Lecture
Laura Bates, founder of the Everyday Sexism Project and author of Everyday Sexism is giving a public lecture on 30 April at Newcastle University
http://www.ncl.ac.uk/events/public-lectures/item.php?laurabates
So why do this

In 1857, 1907 and 1908 American garment workers, all women, marched and demonstrated demanding better pay. In 1910 their example was the inspiration for Clara Zetkin to declare an International Day for Women, at the Socialist Women’s Conference in Copenhagen that year.

The day chosen in 1913 was March 8th, and has been so ever since. The early ‘Days’ focused on pay and voting rights for women. More recently women’s liberation has been prominent, but the Day has always been concerned with the broader struggles of women in the world.

All around the world on March 8th women choose different ways to mark our Day. The emphasis may be on liberation struggles, on women’s working conditions, on freedom from hunger or violence, or a celebration of the strength, vitality and potential of women.

Many of the original ideals have been achieved but many more are still to be won. So please spread the word about these events, try to attend yourself and encourage others to get involved. There is still a lot to be done (especially for women in other countries), so help make our voices heard.

Newcastle Council for Voluntary Services (CVS)

Newcastle CVS promotes voluntary and community action in Newcastle. We do this through supporting, developing, promoting, connecting and representing voluntary and community organisations in Newcastle and providing voice for individuals, organisations and communities. We believe our work helps to make Newcastle a better place to live.

This information is published in good faith but Newcastle CVS accepts no responsibility for any inaccuracy in the items. You are welcome to copy any item for use in the promotion of voluntary sector activity, but please acknowledge the source.

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